

## Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 6905

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PO, UN (TELES, JOSE GALVAO)

SUBJECT: DR. JOSE GALVAO TELES: NEW GOP PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
TO UNITED NATIONS

1. BIOGRAPHY: DR. JOSE MANUEL ARCHER GALVAO TELES HAS BEEN NAMED BY THE PORTUGUESE FOREIGN MINISTRY AS PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS EFFECTIVE NOV 11, 1975. TELES, 37, WAS BORN IN LISBON ON APRIL 8, 1938. IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE APRIL 25 COUP, TELES WAS THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL CENTER OF CULTURE AND CHAIRMAN OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SOCIETY FOR ART EDUCATION AND VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS, A PRIVATE COMPANY. AFTER THE COUP HE WAS APPOINTED BY THE NATIONAL SALVATION JUNTA TO THE ELECTORAL LAW COMMITTEE, WHICH SET UP THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE APRIL 1975 CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS. ON NOV 9, 1974, TELES WAS NAMED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOCIAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY TO THE INTERMINISTERIAL WORKING GROUP ON FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION. THIS GROUP WAS CHARGED WITH UPGRADING GOVERNMENTAL MANAGERIAL CAPACITY TO DEAL WITH THE GROWING NUMBER OF NATIONALIZATIONS, IN PARTICULAR IN THE BANKING SECTOR. TELES WAS ONE OF THE FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE SOCIALIST LEFT MOVEMENT (MES), A SMALL RADICAL SOCIALIST PARTY COMPOSED LARGELY OF MARXIST INTELLECTUALS, WHICH HAS ENJOYED A GOOD DEAL OF PRESTIGE AND INFLUENCE AMONG THE SUCCESSIVE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENTS. JUST PRIOR TO THE 3RD PARTY CONGRESS ON DEC 11, 1974, HOWEVER, TELES QUIT THE MES, REPORTEDLY IN DISAGREEMENT WITH THE PARTY'S SHIFT TO A POSITION CLOSER TO THE COMMUNIST PARTY. HE IS NOW ASSOCIATED WITH A  
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GROUP OF FORMER MES MEMBERS WHO LEFT THE MES AT THE SAME TIME AND

FORM A COHERENT GROUP KNOWN LOCALLY AS THE "EX-MES". THE EX-MES INCLUDES FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS JORGE SAMPAIO AND FORMER MINISTER OF INDUSTRY JOAO CRAVINHO. THE EX-MES, BECAUSE OF THE ORIGINALITY AND INTELLECTUAL CAPACITY OF ITS MEMBERS, HAS INFLUENCE, ESPECIALLY IN THE MILITARY, WELL OUT OF PROPORTION TO ITS MINUTE SIZE.

2. PREVIOUS NOMINATION: GALVAO TELES HAD BEEN NOMINATED BY THE GONCALVES GOVERNMENT TO REPLACE FORMER UN REPRESENTATIVE VEIGA SIMAO; HOWEVER, THE NOMINATION DURING THE CONFUSED SUMMER 1975 POLITICAL SITUATION NEVER WAS ACTED ON. GALVAO TELES WENT TO UNGA 75 SIMPLY AS A MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION.

3. COMMENT: PERSONALLY FRIENDLY TO THE US IN THE PAST, GALVAO TELES, GIVEN HIS MARXIST AND LEFT WING BUT NON-COMMUNIST PARTY POINT OF VIEW, CAN BE EXPECTED TO FAVOR, WHENEVER POSSIBLE, THIRD WORLD POSITIONS. FOR EXAMPLE, HIS COLLEAGUES IN THE EX-MES GROUP HAVE CLOSE TIES TO THE MPLA AND FRELIMO.  
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